



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

## ***Amendment***

LCO No. 10149



Offered by:  
SEN. FONFARA, 1<sup>st</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1130

File No. 922

Cal. No. 551

### ***"AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS INITIATIVES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT."***

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 10a-104c of the general statutes is repealed and  
4 the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

5 (a) The Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut shall  
6 develop, continuously maintain and revise from time to time a  
7 program to facilitate the recruitment of eminent faculty and their  
8 research staffs to the university. Such program shall support economic  
9 development in the state through commercialization of faculty  
10 research and promote core [competency areas] sectors of the state  
11 economy by accelerating the pace of applied research and  
12 development. Such program shall supplement the compensation of  
13 such faculty and related costs of personnel and materials needed to  
14 secure such faculty for the university. Eligibility shall be limited to

15 [scientists] individuals who have demonstrated excellence in their field  
16 of research and have an interest in working collaboratively [with other  
17 scientists at the university and an interest in commercialization of their  
18 research] on research that meets societal needs or commercialization of  
19 discoveries, innovations or technologies.

20 [(b) No funds shall be expended under this section until the  
21 president of The University of Connecticut certifies to the Secretary of  
22 the Office of Policy and Management that the university or the  
23 university's foundation established pursuant to sections 4-37e and 4-  
24 37f has received written commitments for financial support from  
25 industry or other sources of not less than two million dollars for  
26 purposes identified in subsection (a) of this section.]

27 (b) Not later than April 1, 2020, and biennially thereafter, said board  
28 shall develop a plan for the recruitment and hiring of research faculty,  
29 including those whose research is focused on societal needs or can be  
30 commercialized. Such plan shall outline the operating and capital costs  
31 associated with the plan and include recruitment and hiring goals. The  
32 president of The University of Connecticut shall submit an annual  
33 report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, on the  
34 university's progress in meeting such hiring goals to the joint standing  
35 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
36 relating to higher education and finance, revenue and bonding.

37 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2019*) (a) On and after October 1, 2019,  
38 the president of The University of Connecticut shall spearhead efforts  
39 to promote the university's entrepreneurship and innovation to  
40 prospective students and prospective faculty in ways the president  
41 deems appropriate.

42 (b) The Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut shall  
43 release for open, public use and freely license any and all patents held  
44 by the board that have not been utilized for commercialization or  
45 otherwise licensed for a period of ten years or more, provided the

46 inventor is first offered the right to license the patent.

47 (c) The Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut and the  
48 president of The University of Connecticut shall build and foster,  
49 through a series of activities, a culture of innovation and  
50 entrepreneurship among the students enrolled at each campus of The  
51 University of Connecticut. Such activities shall include, but need not be  
52 limited to, organizing and hosting regular networking events for  
53 student and faculty entrepreneurs, and the support of relevant student  
54 clubs and organizations.

55 (d) The Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut and the  
56 president of The University of Connecticut shall seek to build  
57 entrepreneurial relationships, when feasible and practical, between  
58 The University of Connecticut and other interested public or  
59 independent institutions of higher education in the state that are  
60 engaged in entrepreneurial efforts, including, but not limited to, Yale  
61 University.

62 Sec. 3. (*Effective July 1, 2019*) (a) The president of The University of  
63 Connecticut shall oversee (1) the benchmarking and review of  
64 technology transfer policies at other leading institutions of higher  
65 education, and (2) the development of a plan concerning such transfer  
66 policies. In developing such plan, the president shall solicit input from  
67 members of the CTNext board of directors established pursuant to  
68 section 32-39f of the general statutes and the Higher Education  
69 Entrepreneurship Advisory Committee established pursuant to section  
70 32-39t of the general statutes, as amended by this act, at not less than  
71 one meeting each of the CTNext board of directors and the advisory  
72 committee.

73 (b) The plan developed under subsection (a) of this section shall  
74 include:

75 (1) Recommendations for reforming the technology transfer policies  
76 of the university, including recommendations (A) to maximize the

77 number of new business ventures formed through the  
78 commercialization of faculty and student research, giving greater  
79 priority to the financial interests of such business ventures than to the  
80 recoupment of patent-related or other royalties or profit for the  
81 university, (B) to focus the university's technology transfer policies on  
82 start-up business formation rather than patent licensing, (C) for  
83 funding, staffing levels and staff organization necessary to achieve  
84 such plan, and (D) any other recommendations requested by the board  
85 of trustees;

86 (2) Recommendations, goals and funding needed to foster faculty  
87 and student entrepreneurship at the university and the creation of an  
88 alumni mentor network to assist student entrepreneurs and faculty  
89 with the formation of business ventures. Such recommendations shall  
90 include best practices for alumni mentor networks that shall be shared  
91 with CTNext or the Higher Education Entrepreneurship Advisory  
92 Committee;

93 (3) Recommendations for (A) the continuous improvement of the  
94 policies set forth under subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this  
95 subsection, taking into consideration best practices of  
96 entrepreneurship, and (B) actionable measures to increase the creation  
97 and support of new business ventures;

98 (4) Recommendations, if any, of changes to the recruitment and  
99 hiring plan and goals set forth in subsection (b) of section 10a-104c of  
100 the general statutes, as amended by this act;

101 (5) Consideration of all funds available to The University of  
102 Connecticut and legislative recommendations, if any, to changes in the  
103 funding levels of the university;

104 (6) Development of a comprehensive plan of metrics to be used for  
105 the tracking and analysis of the university's success in facilitating the  
106 creation of new business ventures based on faculty and student  
107 research;

108 (7) An analysis of comparative rankings made by qualified experts  
109 of institutions of higher education in the United States, with respect to  
110 such institutions' success in entrepreneurship and innovation,  
111 including a ranking of The University of Connecticut, and  
112 identification of a ranking or a range of rankings said university shall  
113 seek to attain;

114 (8) An assessment of current and future space needed on the  
115 university's campuses to serve as gathering places for student  
116 entrepreneurs and other individuals who support the development of  
117 student business ventures, including any projected construction or  
118 renovation costs to meet such space needs; and

119 (9) Recommendations for ways the university can assist other  
120 institutions of higher education in the state to foster entrepreneurship  
121 and innovation.

122 (c) Not later than January 1, 2020, the president of The University of  
123 Connecticut shall submit the plan developed under this section to the  
124 Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut. Not later than  
125 March 1, 2020, said board shall either approve such plan or request  
126 modifications to such plan. The president shall be provided thirty days  
127 after receiving a request for modifications to submit a revised plan to  
128 said board. Upon final approval of the plan, said board shall submit  
129 such plan, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the  
130 general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General  
131 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education  
132 and finance, revenue and bonding and to the CTNext board of  
133 directors. Each of said committees shall raise a bill during the 2020 or  
134 2021 regular session to implement any legislative recommendations  
135 contained in such plan. Said board may adopt a resolution to  
136 implement the recommendations for the university that are contained  
137 in such plan.

138 Sec. 4. Section 32-39t of the general statutes is repealed and the

139 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

140 (a) There shall be a Higher Education Entrepreneurship Advisory  
141 Committee within CTNext. Such committee shall consist of members  
142 appointed by the CTNext board of directors, including, but not limited  
143 to: (1) An equal number of representatives of public and private  
144 institutions of higher education; (2) one baccalaureate student  
145 representative; (3) one graduate student representative; (4) one high  
146 school student who shall be a nonvoting member; and (5) three serial  
147 entrepreneurs having experience as an entrepreneur in residence at an  
148 institution of higher education. Such members shall be subject to term  
149 limits prescribed by the CTNext board. All initial appointments to the  
150 committee pursuant to this subsection shall be made not later than  
151 June 1, 2017. Each member shall hold office until a successor is  
152 appointed. For the purposes of this section, "serial entrepreneur"  
153 means an entrepreneur having brought one or more start-up  
154 businesses to venture capital funding by an institutional investor.

155 (b) The executive director of CTNext shall call the first meeting of  
156 the advisory committee not later than June 15, 2017. The advisory  
157 group shall select chairpersons of the advisory group during such  
158 meeting. The advisory committee shall meet not less than quarterly  
159 thereafter and at such other times as the chairperson deems necessary.

160 (c) No member of the advisory committee shall receive  
161 compensation for such member's service, except that each member  
162 shall be entitled to reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses  
163 incurred during the performance of such member's official duties.

164 (d) A majority of members of the advisory committee shall  
165 constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business or the exercise  
166 of any power of the advisory committee. The advisory committee may  
167 act by a majority of the members present at any meeting at which a  
168 quorum is in attendance, for the transaction of any business or the  
169 exercise of any power of the advisory committee, except as otherwise

170 provided in this section.

171 (e) Every member of the advisory committee shall be deemed a  
172 member of an advisory board for purposes of chapter 10.

173 (f) Any institution of higher education, or partnership of one or  
174 more institutions of higher education, may submit an application for  
175 higher education entrepreneurship grant-in-aid to the advisory  
176 committee, on a form prescribed by the advisory committee.

177 (g) The advisory committee shall review applications for grants-in-  
178 aid submitted to it pursuant to this section. The advisory committee  
179 may recommend approval of any such application to the CTNext  
180 board of directors if it determines that the application is consistent  
181 with and in furtherance of the master plan for entrepreneurship at  
182 public and private institutions of higher education developed pursuant  
183 to section 32-39s. The advisory committee shall give priority for grants-  
184 in-aid to applications (1) including collaborative initiatives between  
185 institutions of higher education, and (2) supporting individual  
186 institutions of higher education to develop alumni mentor networks,  
187 entrepreneurs-in-residence programs, university proof of concept  
188 funds and student business start-up accelerators, when such  
189 individual institutions demonstrate that such networks, programs,  
190 funds and accelerators are not feasible for operation across multiple  
191 institutions of higher education."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

|           |                     |             |
|-----------|---------------------|-------------|
| Section 1 | <i>July 1, 2019</i> | 10a-104c    |
| Sec. 2    | <i>July 1, 2019</i> | New section |
| Sec. 3    | <i>July 1, 2019</i> | New section |
| Sec. 4    | <i>July 1, 2019</i> | 32-39t      |